



"American cars have been at the vanguard of the automotive world since before the Model T began rolling off Ford's first assembly line. The electric starter, production V8 engine, automatic transmission, car stereo, and the muscle car are all American inventions, and each has had a profound effect on the way people interact with their cars all over the world." <motorbiscuit>

What makes a car a classic? It has many interpretations and responses. In developing this photo program, I found two interesting articles on the subject and have shared them with you.

According to <motorbiscuit.com> ten classic American cars changed the auto world forever. They were:

1. 1948 Tucker, America's futuristic car with safety features such as a padded dash and a third head light that turned with the wheels. Only 51 cars were built. Today they are indeed a rarity and a very expensive car to buy.
2. 1953 Cadillac Eldorado became the "flagship" and very exclusive car to own. President Eisenhower and Elvis Presley were owners.
3. 1955 Chevrolet Corvette became America's Sports Car. They were introduced in 1953 but had power and reliability issues.
4. 1965 Shelby Cobra was "the brainchild of chicken farmer turned-race car driver Carroll Shelby." The car's manufacture was initiated by deal between Ford and British carmaker AC. This light-weight roadster had a massive V8 engine.
5. 1964 Ford Mustang had its introduction at the World's Fair. It became a hit with growing youth market. By 1967 the Mustang had many competitors. Still built by Ford as an American muscle car.
6. 1970 Plymouth Roadrunner Sunbird was Chrysler's introduction to aerodynamic cars. The Dodge Daytona was of a similar design. The design enabled the car to accelerate to more than 180 miles per hour. It even became licensed part of the Road Runner character by Warner Brothers.
7. 1980 AMC (American Motors Corporation) Eagle was America's first sedan and station wagon with four-wheel drive SUV crossover.
8. 2000 Saleen was America's "world-class supercar." By the end of its production the Saleen S7 had up to 750 horsepower and reaching speeds of 248 miles per hour.
9. 2004 Ford GT was the "modern reincarnation of Ford's iconic GT40 racer of the 1960s. With its supercharged V8 engine it could attain 0-60 within three seconds. Its production ended in 2006.
10. 2005 Hennessey Venom GT, a Texas-based Hennessey Performance Engineering firm had turbocharger V8 from General Motors rated at 1,244 horsepower and 270 miles per hour. It took all honors away from the French-German competition. <motorbiscuit>

Article by James Derek Sapienza, October 8, 2019

Another car culture source <autowise.com> wrote about 23 classic American cars that also changed the automobile industry. They were:

1. 1908 Ford Model T was considered the vehicle that changed the automotive industry the most. Mass production and affordability were key reasons for the notice.
2. 1928 Duesenberg Model J was America's luxury car. A car that was selected over the Rolls Royce, Bugatti, Maybach, and others.
3. 1934 Chrysler Airflow was a streamlined car from the Art Deco era. "A triumph of technology...it was a few steps ahead of its predecessors."
4. 1935 Chevrolet Suburban has been in uninterrupted name-plate production through today. Once a station wagon on truck frame, it has withstood the changes in the industry.
5. 1945 Willys-Overland CJ-2A was a post-WWII spin-off from the military Jeep. "It was the first successful civilian adaption of a military vehicle."
6. 1948 Ford F-Series nameplate is still in production and is "the best-sold American vehicle of all time." Over 35 million trucks have been sold. (Article written in 2017)
7. 1948 Tucker 48 "remains one of the most technologically advanced cars ever created to this day."
8. 1949 Oldsmobile Rocket 88 was touted as America's first muscle car. Affordability, simplicity, and 135 horsepower-263 lb-ft of torque, displacing more 300 cubic inches, a first for the industry.
9. 1949 Chevrolet Bel Air was considered a "beautifully styled car."
10. 1952 Cadillac Eldorado appearance led to Lincoln Mark Series, Buick Riviera, Chrysler Imperial, and Oldsmobile Toronado, but lasted longer than them. It was America's answer to luxury during the Cold War era.
11. 1953 Chevrolet Corvette rolled off the Flint, Michigan assembly line on June 30th and continues today.
12. 1957 Chevrolet Impala was at times the best-selling full-sized car in America. It became Chevy's trend setter with "a hint of luxury and class."
13. 1964 Ford GT40 was never mass produced but became a "Ferrari fighter" and winner of "high-performance endurance racing." The story of this vehicle is worth reading in the source.
14. 1964 Ford Mustang was not the first muscle car, but its success makes it a note-worthy car in the Ford line.
15. 1966 Chevrolet Camaro was the Mustang's competition and was introduced because General Motors recognized the success of sport compacts. These models are considered very collectible.
16. 1966 Ford Bronco wasn't an SUV, but "a serious off-roader with appealing looks." Its competitor was Jeep C3-5.
17. 1969 Pontiac Trans Am was another popular muscle car that responded to the compact sports car interest.
18. 1980 AMC Eagle could be considered a sedan, coupe, and wagon. Designed with greater ground clearance and four-wheel drive, it became the first crossover. Unfortunately, the American Motors Corporation's economic problems caused its demise.

19. 1984 Dodge Caravan replaced the company's aging station wagon. Placed on a car platform, rather than a truck, it became the model for other manufacturers by example.
20. 1985 Ford Taurus was designed from the inside-out. Its "user-friendly interior" became noted for designers in the future. It also had a "jellybean aero design" that received notice.
21. 1987 Buick GNX "arguably the most badass muscle car ever produced, the "Grand National Experimental" represents the American car industry in more than one way. It's not just a powerful and menacing velvet hammer, but a car that's singlehandedly brought the muscle scene back from the grave."
22. 1992 Dodge Viper-"The Dodge Viper obviously wasn't your run-of-the-mill sports car. People don't call it serpent for nothing. Early models were, in true fashion of the American car industry, almost too much to handle. Especially for inexperienced drivers. It was as if the car was actually plotting to kill its owner. But fun in the hands of capable drivers!" 645 horsepower-204mph.
23. 2012 Tesla Model S was not the first electric vehicle (EV). "It's the most luxurious of the mass production all-electric cars, it has the longest range, it's the quickest, and it boasts corresponding charging times."

<autowise.com> Article by Nikola Potrebic, October 13, 2017

This photo program shares an overview of this large museum. If you like cars, this is a museum that you will enjoy.



Cars from the Big Three: Chrysler-Ford-General Motors





1989 Cadillac TRUMP LIMO

Donald Trump convinced Cadillac to build a special limo series in 1988, that he dubbed the Trump Golden Series and the Trump Executive Series. In *The Art of the Deal* he writes that Cadillac and himself have decided to create "the most opulent stretch limousine made". Soon after production began, the deal fell through and only the two prototypes were ever complete. For their day, they were over-the-top, with rosewood interiors and gold slathered on everything. They came complete with a fax machine, TV, VCR, a paper shredder, writing desks, a pair of NEC cell phones, extra headroom, and an ingenious liquor system that allowed drinks to be pumped into glasses from the storage containers hidden in the trunk. The model is one of the only two that exists in the world, as it's one of these famous prototypes.

Stock: 1487
Vin: 1G6DW514XJ

Other Vintage Cars



1948 Tucker Car



1940 Supercharged Sharknose Graham



Sources: <https://dezerlandpark.com/orlando/bond-museum/>, <https://www.motorbiscuit.com/10-american-icons-that-changed-the-automotive-world/>, <https://autowise.com/classic-american-cars/>, <https://motor-car.net/duesenberg/item/15833-duesenberg>, <https://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h1810.html>, <https://corporate.ford.com/about/history.html>, <https://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h1809.html>, <https://www.motortrend.com/vehicle-genres/dmc-delorean-history-generations-specifications-photos/>, <http://www.tuckerclub.org/tucker-history/>, and <https://www.hemmings.com/stories/article/supercharged-exhilaration-1940-graham-coupe>,

acuri.net

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